

THEME: THE HOLY SPIRIT

TOPIC: THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN JESUS CHRIST

TEXT: LUKE 4:18-19 ISAIAH 11:2-3

INTRODUCTION

Many Christians assume that Christ was able to perform miracles because He was God. It certainly is true that He is God. However, if for example we make the point, that Christ's Divine nature necessarily and always acts through His human nature, thus enabling Him to perform miracles, then a serious problem emerges concerning the many texts that speak of the Holy Spirit's role in the life of Christ.

If the Divine second person of the Godhead is the sole effective agent working on the human nature, then we need to ask ourselves a serious question: What is the point of the Holy Spirit in the life of Christ?

1. Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Spirit.

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God – Luke 1:35.

Q: Was the Holy Spirit involved in the conception of Jesus; true or false?

2. Jesus Christ led a holy and spotless life and offered Himself unblemished to God through the working of the Holy Spirit.

How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! – **Hebrews 9:14**

3. Jesus Christ was anointed and fitted for service by the Holy Spirit.

God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God...**Acts 10:38**

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners – Isaiah 61:1; Luke 4:18-19

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside – Luke 4:14; Matthew 3:16b.

Q: What role did the Holy Spirit play in Jesus response to being tempted by the devil?

4. Jesus Christ was led by the Holy Spirit in His movements here upon earth.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert. – Luke 4:1

5. Jesus Christ was taught by the Spirit who rested upon Him. The Spirit of God was the source of His wisdom in the days of His flesh.

The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--and he will

delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears. – **Isaiah 11:2-3; Isaiah 42:1**

Q: How did the Spirit of Wisdom and understanding manifest in the life and ministry of Jesus

6. The Holy Spirit abode upon Jesus in all His fullness and the words He spoke in consequence were the very words of God.

For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit. – **John 3:34**

Q: What do we understand by the Spirit without limit?

7. **After His resurrection, Jesus Christ gave instructions to His Apostles whom He had chosen through the Holy Spirit.**

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. – **Acts 1:1-3**

8. **Jesus Christ performed His miracles here on earth in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

“I drive out demons by the spirit of God...” – **Matthew 12:28a**

9. **It was by the power of the Holy Spirit that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead.**

And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit. – **Romans 8:11**

Q: In what way does the Holy Spirit give life to our mortal (short-lived, perishable) bodies?

Conclusion

The New Testament confirms Isaiah’s testimony for example, that Christ received the Spirit without measure (John 3:34). At Jesus’s baptism the Spirit descended upon him (Matthew 3:16); and the Spirit plays a significant role in leading Christ to and sustaining him before, during, and after his temptation (Luke 4:1, 14). In Luke 4, Jesus reads from Isaiah 61:1–2 “the Spirit of the Lord is upon me” and announces that he is the fulfilment of that prophecy (Luke 4:21). Christ performed miracles in the power of the Holy Spirit according to (Matthew 12:18; Acts 10:38). Hebrews 9:14 may be taken to mean that Christ offered himself up not by his own spirit but by the enabling of the Holy Spirit. Like his death, Christ’s resurrection is attributed to the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:11), and by it he “was declared to be the Son of God . . . according to the Spirit of holiness” (Romans 1:4; see also 1 Timothy 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18).

The Holy Spirit was Christ’s inseparable companion during his earthly ministry.